(e) In so far as the recommendations of the Expert Group, as regards including more services in the tax net are concerned, the same were examined as part of this year's budget exercise and it was decided for the present not to extend service tax to more services. The other recommendations of the Group are under consideration of the Government and action to implement them will be taken when the decision thereon is arrived at.

Appointment of Consultants by AAI for privatisation of airports

*288. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has received 57 bids for the appointment of financial and legal consultants to privatise the three international airports of Delhi, Mumbai and Calcutta;

(b) if so, the names of the bidders; and

(c) when the final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) had invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) from financial/legal consultants for submission of an action plan on the following issues as also to provide commercial and financial assistance/advice in the effective implementation of the same in the existing environment:—

(a) the mode, modalities and extent of private sector participation in the existing AAI Airports;

(b) the feasibility and desirability of corporatisation of AAI and the existing AAI Airports (on individual or group basis); and

(c) commercial exploitation of land and assets of AAI so as to increase non-aeronautical revenues.

As on first February, 1999, (the last date for submission of EOIs) 20 financial consultants and 33 legal consultants have responded to the Invitation for Expressions of Interest. The list of these consultants is at statement-I and II respectively (*See* below). The selections are likely to be finalised by end April, 1999.

Statement-I

List of EOI's Received—Financial Consultants

1. Jardine Fleming India Securities Ltd., Mumbai, ICICI Group India Mumbai. The Portland Group, UK, Halcrow Group Ltd., UK and Colliers Jardine (India) Property Services Ltd., Mumbai.
2. V. Malik & Associates, New Delhi, IFCI Financial Services Ltd., New Delhi and Cosmos Consulting, New Delhi.
3. Tata Economic Consultancy Services, Mumbai, Macquarie Corporation Ltd., Australia and Speed Wing Consulting (Consulting Wing of British Airway PLC.), U.K.
4. A.F. Ferguson & Co., New Delhi, Strategies for Airports Inc. (SFA)/ Thompson Consultants International (TCA), USA and Lazard Credit Capital Ltd., New Delhi.
5. The Sumitomo Bank Ltd., London, Frischmann Prabhu (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai and Deloitte & Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
6. Bharat D. Momaya, Thane
7. K & S Consultanting Group, Hyderabad and Strategies for Airports Inc. (SFA)/Thompson Consultants International (TCA), USA.
8. Chopra, Purna Consultants & Associates, Mumbai

9. Kirloskar Consultants Limited, Pune, Strategies for Airports, Inc. (SFA)/Thompson Consultants International (TCI), USA and K&P Capital Services Ltd., Pune.
10. N. Prasada Rao & Associates, Hyderabad
11. Walia & Company, New Delhi, Jindal & Co., New Delhi and Strategies for Airports, Inc. (SFA)/Thompson Consultants International (TCI), USA.
12. ABN Amro Asia Corporate Finance, New Delhi, IL&FS, new Delhi and N.M. Rothschild & Sons, Mumbai.
13. SBI Capital Markets Ltd., Mumbai, Warburg Dillon Read, Mumbai and Pricewater House Coopers Ltd., New Delhi.
14. JM Financial & Investment Consultancy Services Ltd., New Delhi and Morgan Stanley, Mumbai.
15. HSBC Investment Banking, New Delhi. SH & E. USA. Arthur Anderson, Mumbai and IDBI, Mumbai.
16. KPMG India Ltd., New Delhi, Bank of America, New Delhi, Rites, New Delhi and CB Richard Ellis Ltd., New Delhi.
17. Intercontinental Consultants and Technocrats Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, Leigh Fisher Associates, California, USA, Sverdrup Civil Inc., New Delhi, Aviation Strategies International, Canada, Thompson Design Group Inc. USA and J.B. Dadachanji & Co. New Delhi.
18. ANZ Grindlays Bank Ltd., Mumbai. The Credit Rating Information Services of India Ltd., New Delhi. British Aerospace, Aviation & Construction Consultancy, U.K. Jones Lang Wootton, New Delhi, Ernst & Young Private Ltd., New Delhi and A.C. Nielsen Research Services private Ltd., Mumbai.
19. Chescor Capital Limited. UK, Fair Wood Consultants (Private) Limited, New Delhi and Associated Airport Consultants.
20. W S Atkins International Ltd., England and Tata Consultancy Services, New Delhi.

Statement-II

List of EOI's—Legal Consultants

1. Maheshwari & Co., New Delhi and Wragge & Co., U.K.
2. Luthra & Luthra, New Delhi and Orrick Herrignton & Sutcliffe, U.K.
3. J. Sagar Associates, New Delhi and Baker & MC Kenzie, U.K.
4. Sharma & Sharma Associates, Delhi.
5. Orion Air Pvt. Ltd., Mysore and Strategies for Airports, Inc. (SFA)/Thompson Consultants International (TCI), USA.
6. Walia & Co., New Delhi and Strategies for Airports, INC. (SFA)/Thompson Consultants International (TCI), USA.
7. Tottenham India Law Associates, New Delhi.
8. Amarchand & Mangaldas & Suresh A. Shroff & Co., New Delhi and Freshfields, UK.
9. Consulta Juris, Mumbai and Hogan & hartson, USA.
10. Vaidyanathan & Associates, New Delhi.
11. Simmons & Simmons, UK.
12. White & Case, Singapore.
13. Lovell White Durrant, UK and Dave & Girish & Co., Mumbai.
14. Vaish Associate, New Delhi and Gardner, Carton & Douglas, USA.

15. Dave & Girish & Co., Mumbai and Lovell White Durrant, UK.
16. Fox Mandal & Company, New Delhi and Slaughter & May, Singapore.
17. Udwadia, Udeshi & Berjis, Mumbai and Allen & Overy, UK.
18. Wadhia Ghandy & Co., Mumbai, Rao & Joshi & Associates, Bangalore and Desai & Savla, New Delhi.
19. Dention Hall, UK and Rajinder Narain & Company, New Delhi.
20. Singhania & Co., New Delhi and Stikeman Elliot, Canada.
21. Ajay Bahl & Co., New Delhi and Winthrop, Stimpson, Putnam, & Roberts, USA.
22. Dua Associates, New Delhi and Clayton UTZ, Australia.
23. Bhasin & Co., New Delhi and Herbert Smith, London.
24. Rowe & Maw, London and Goswami Associates, New Delhi.
25. Associated Law Advisors, New Delhi and Nicholson Graham & Jones, UK.
26. Crawford Bayley & Company, Mumbai and Watson Farley & Williams, UK.
27. Ashurst Morris Crisp, New Delhi and M.G. Ramachandran & Associates.
28. Garrets, UK and Khaitan & Co..
29. WSP Group PLC., UK, London Luton Airport, UK and Engineers & Management Associates, New Delhi.
30. Linklaters & Paines, UK and LTTLe & Company, Mumbai.
31. Dr. V.K. Aggarwal, New Delhi.
32. Suri & Company, New Delhi and Camerom MC Kenna, UK.
33. Australian Government Solicitor, Melbourne.

Amendment of Law on Adultery

*289. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law on adultery is discriminatory towards a married woman;

(b) if so, the discriminations noticed in IPC (Section 497 and 377); and

(c) the steps proposed to amend the law immediately?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) and (b) It is not correct to say that Section 497 and 377 of the Indian Penal Code are discriminatory to married women. The Law Commission of India in its 156th Report on the Indian Penal Code (Volume I) has made recommendations proposing amendments to sections 497 and 377 of the Indian Penal Code so as to bring in the concept of equality between the sexes and provide mandatory punishment where unnatural offences are committed on a person under the age of 18 years.

(c) The criminal laws being in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, the Ministry of Home Affairs have stated that they have called for the views of the State Governments on the Report of the Law Commission.

यू०बी०आई०, यूको तथा बैंक ऑफ इंडिया को हुए घाटे

*290. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वित्त संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति ने अगस्त, 1998 की अपनी रिपोर्ट में यूको बैंक, बैंक आफ इंडिया और युनाइटेड बैंक आफ इंडिया के निरन्तर घाटे में चलने पर चिन्ता जाहिर की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान इन बैंकों को प्रतिवर्ष कितना-कितना घाटा हुआ और इसके क्या कारण है; और